

*ciatus*. Back, dull gray. Interscapulars, with the central part of each feather, black, terminating in a point; the outer part of the web being broadly fringed with a very pale fulvous, the inner with gray. Wings: primaries brown, with fulvous marks, forming three irregular transverse bars, which are scarcely visible when the wing is closed. Tail and upper tail-coverts, dull coloured, very obscurely marked with transverse bars of gray and fulvous, of different degrees of darkness. *Under surface*.—Throat white, edged with fulvous on lower side. Breast, belly, and under tail-coverts, fulvous, with numerous very narrow transverse bars of brown. The pale fulvous marks, forming interrupted bars, are more plainly seen on this than on the upper side of the tail.

Third primary, very little longer than second, and second than first. First rather longer than fourth. Extremities of wings reaching within an inch and a quarter of end of tail. End of tail more rounded than in last species.

	In.		In.
Total length . . . . .	7½	Tarsi . . . . .	⅝
Wings . . . . .	5	Middle toe, from tip of claw to joint of foot . . . . .	⅞
Tail . . . . .	4	From tip of beak to rictus . . . . .	1

Habitat, La Plata, (*September*).

This species is not uncommon on the wooded banks of the Parana, near Santa Fé. If disturbed, it rises from the ground, in the same inactive manner as the European species. I saw one alight on a rope diagonally, but not so completely in a longitudinal position as does the *C. Europæus*, nor transversely as other birds. Mr. Gould observes, that “this goatsucker is full a third less than the *Caprimulgus Europæus*, and is remarkable for the uniformity of its markings, having no distinct white bars, or marks, either on the wings or tail.”

#### FAMILY.—HIRUNDINIDÆ.

##### 1. PROGNE PURPUREA. *Boie*.

*Hirundo purpurea*, *Wils.*

My specimens were obtained at Monte Video, (November) and Bahia Blanca, 39° S. (September) how much further southward this species extends I do not know. Jardine says, that in North America it migrates during summer as far as the Great Bear Lake, in Lat. 66° N.; it is mentioned by M. Audubon, at New Orleans, 30° N., and by Mr. Swainson, at Pernambuco, in 8½° S.; we may, there-

fore, conclude that it ranges throughout both Americas, but it is not found in the Old World. Wilson describes this bird as a great favourite with the inhabitants of North America, both European and Indian, who erect boxes and other contrivances near their houses for it to build in. At Bahia Blanca, the females were beginning to lay in September, (corresponding to our March): they had excavated deep holes in a cliff of compact earth, close by the side of the larger burrows inhabited by the ground parrot of Patagonia, (*Psittacara Patagonica*.) I noticed several times a small flock of these birds, pursuing each other, in a rapid and direct course, flying low, and screaming in the manner so characteristic of the English Swift, (*Hirundo Apus*, Linn.)

##### 2. PROGNE MODESTA. *Gould*.

PLATE V.

*Hirundo concolor*, *Gould*, in Proceedings of the Zoological Society.

##### *P. nitidè cærulescenti-nigra*.

Long. tot. 6 unc; *alæ*, 5¼; *caudæ*, 2¾; *tarsi*, ½.

The upper and under surface has not so strongly a marked purple shade, as in the *P. purpurea*. The primaries and feathers of the tail, however, have a greenish gloss, perhaps slightly more metallic.

Tail not so deeply forked as in *P. purpurea*, which is owing to the two external feathers on each side not being so much prolonged and bent outward, as in that species. Nostrils of less size than in the latter, although the beaks differ but little. Claws and feet are much less strong, than might have been anticipated, even proportionally to the less dimensions of this species compared with the *P. purpurea*.

	Inches.		Inches.
Total length . . . . .	6	Tarsi . . . . .	½
Wings . . . . .	5½	Middle toe from tip of claw to joint . . . . .	⅞
Tail . . . . .	2¾		

Habitat, James Island, Galapagos Archipelago, (*October*).

*Male*.

This swallow was observed only on this one island of the group, and it was there very far from common. It frequented a bold cliff of lava overhanging the sea. Had not Mr. Gould characterized it as a distinct species, I should have considered it only as a small variety, produced by an uncongenial site, of the *Progne purpurea*. I can perceive no difference whatever from that bird,